

By: Springer

H.R. No. 853

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Firefighters from across Texas are gathering at the
2 State Capitol on March 19, 2019, for Firefighter Appreciation Day
3 and a memorial service honoring their fallen comrades; and

4 WHEREAS, The event is hosted by the State Firefighters' and
5 Fire Marshals' Association of Texas, which represents 22,000
6 individual members, more than 1,200 fire departments, and 80
7 industrial fire brigades in the Lone Star State; and

8 WHEREAS, Each year, on average, six firefighters in Texas die
9 in the line of duty; though improvements in safety oversight have
10 resulted in a decrease by half of the number of deaths over the past
11 15 years, firefighting remains one of the most dangerous
12 professions; and

13 WHEREAS, At the ceremony in Austin, 11 firefighters who made
14 the ultimate sacrifice between 2002 and 2018 are being honored by
15 their peers and their families; these heroes include Travis Wiens
16 of the Wichita West Fire Department, Scott Deem of San Antonio FD,
17 Jarrell B. Hinkie of the Silsbee Volunteer Fire Department, Eric
18 Zapalac of Sealy FD, Daryl Barber of Brazoria VFD, Charles
19 Patterson of Bowie Rural VFD, M. V. Hudson of New London FD, Larry
20 Marusik of Ellinger VFD, Caleb Scott of North Richland Hills FD,
21 Bernard Olive of Baytown FD, and Frankie Partida Jr. of Glen Flora
22 VFD; and

23 WHEREAS, Every day, firefighters and other emergency
24 responders risk their own lives to protect the lives of their fellow

1 citizens, and these skilled and courageous men and women deserve
2 the heartfelt gratitude of every Texan; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
4 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the memory of Texas firefighters
5 who have died in the line of duty and extend sincere sympathy to the
6 members of their families; and, be it further

7 RESOLVED, That when the Texas House of Representatives
8 adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Travis Wiens, Scott Deem,
9 Jarrell B. Hinkie, Eric Zapalac, Daryl Barber, Charles Patterson,
10 M. V. Hudson, Larry Marusik, Caleb Scott, Bernard Olive, and
11 Frankie Partida Jr.